

of Anatomy.\* 5. That similar operations on native women have been reported lately from other places of Australia.†

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REMARKS ABOUT THE CIRCUMVOLUTIONS OF THE CEREBRUM OF  
CANIS DINGO.

BY N. DE MIKLOUHO-MACLAY.

[Plate V.]

Without going into a detailed description of the *gyri* and *sulci* of the brain of the Dingo, a glance of the same (fig. 1.) and even a superficial comparison with the circumvolutions of another dog (fig. 4), proves, that the gyri of the former are more numerous and complicated than that of the later. It is true that on the plate are figured Brains of two very extreme representatives of the species *Canis*. The one is that of the Dingo, the wild dog of Australia, the other the dog of New Guinea (from the Maclay Coast). The mode of life of both helps to explain the differences of their brains.

The dingo depends upon his skill to provide himself with sufficient food by hunting, which requires often the full use of his intellect. Many of the gentlemen present here know far more than myself about the intelligence and cunning of the dingo; therefore, having no experience of my own to add about this subject, I will say a few words about the Papuan dog.

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\*Dr. Roberts in his travel from Delhi to Bombay (I found it mentioned in Müller's Archiv., 1873.) speaks about a female eunuch, who had the ovaria cut out; she had no breast, very little adipose tissue on the *Mons veneris* which was hairless, the backside was manlike, she had no menstruation, and no sexual inclination.

†I know from Mr. H. Gilliat, that Mr. Suttor has told him of having seen women similarly operated on, among the blacks on the Herbert and Mulligan Rivers, and that another gentleman had assured him of the same fact. I have heard from Mr. Dufaur, that he had noticed in the diary of Hume, a reference to a similar practice among the blacks.

The *Canis papuensis* is very different in appearance and character from the *Canis dingo*; is generally smaller, has not the bushy tail of the dingo, is very timid, and howls instead of barking. The New Guinea dog is used as food by the Natives of the Maclay Coast; his flesh however, when baked or boiled is dark and dry, and is generally regarded by the natives as inferior to that of the pig. Although he is sometimes fed by his master and gets with the pigs, all the remnants of the meals, he is often to be seen on reefs at low water, feeding on crabs and small fishes, etc.

During the night, the dog in company with the pig takes over the business of the "Nightman" and the "scavenger" of the Papuan villages. Everything that appears edible to their taste and is not put out of their reach, including the human excrements which abound in the early part of the morning in the closest vicinity of the house, is devoured by them.

In only a very few instances have I seen the natives of the Maclay Coast using their dogs to assist them in their hunting the wild pig, the dorcopsis and the cassowary; the *Canis papuensis*, I think is not only too timid, but too lazy and too stupid an animal for such an occupation.

I am sorry that I left in Singapore, among my papers, some drawings and photos of circumvolutions of brains of dogs of different breeds. The comparison of the same with the gyri of the Dingo would show that although the circumvolutions of the brains of the Dingo do not differ greatly from those of the brains of some of them, they are superior in number and complication of many of them.

#### EXPLANATION OF PLATE V.

Fig. 1.—Brain of *Canis dingo*, Shaw, from a young specimen, from Gularber Station, on the Balonne River, Queensland; seen from above.

„ 2. }  
 „ 3. } The same from the sides.



Fig. 4.—Brain of *Canis papuensis*, from the Village Bonga, Maclay Coast, New Guinea; seen from above.

„ 5. }  
 „ 6. } The same from the sides.

## NOTES AND EXHIBITS.

Baron Maclay exhibited Photographs and Drawings of the brain of *Canis dingo*.

Mr. Ramsay exhibited a new species of snake-like Lizard of the genus *Lygopus* from Nicol Bay.

Mr. Brazier exhibited a specimen of *Bulimus Rossiteri*.

Mr. Pedley exhibited an embryo of a *Hippocampus*, taken from the pouch of the male.

Dr. Cox exhibited a fine series of *Pythia* illustrating his paper.

Mr. Palmer exhibited an aboriginal skull from Broadsound, Queensland.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 27TH, 1881.

The President, Dr. J. C. Cox, F.L.S., in the Chair.

## DONATIONS.

The Fern World of Australia by F. M. Bailey, F.L.S., &c.

The Third Annual Report of the Campbelltown Botanical Society; by the Society.

The Southern Science Record for June 1881.

Journal of the Royal Microscopical Society, Vol. I., part 2, by the Society.